

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 37. (Cancelled)

38. (Withdrawn) A window covering comprising:

a thin, flexible film of plastic material, which is capable of self-adhering to a non-porous surface through cohesion and atmospheric pressure and includes a printed translucent colored image;

wherein the printed translucent colored image is an image of a stained glass window and light can pass all the way through the window covering.

39. (Withdrawn) The window covering of claim 38 wherein the image of the stained glass window is a reproduction of an actual stained glass window.

40. (Currently Amended) A method of simulating a stained glass window comprising:

providing a window;

providing a single continuous non-laminated piece of thin, transparent, flexible plastic film material that includes an image of a stained glass window printed contiguously across an entire top surface of the plastic film material using multiple different colored layers of ink printed on top of each other that together in combination with the film when applied to a window simulate all the different features of a stained glass window, the multiple different colored layers forming a substantially smooth and uniform outside surface on at least one entire side of the plastic material that self-adheres to the window through cohesion and atmospheric pressure;

applying printing sufficient opacifiers to onto the multiple different colored layers of ink or to onto the top surface of the flexible plastic film before or after printing the image of the stained glass window that in combination with the multiple different colored layers of ink create a translucent non-opaque stained glass image that allows light to pass through the plastic film material and the window while at the same time evenly dispersing and diffusing the light as the light passes through the translucent non-opaque stained glass image thereby preventing the viewing of objects through the window,

coupling the plastic material that is sized to at least substantially cover the window to the window through cohesion and atmospheric pressure; and

the translucent stained glass image formed by the printing of ink and the opacifiers in a substantially uniform coating on the top surface of the plastic material to simulate an illuminated stained glass window and wherein the translucence of the window covering is provided without embossing or laminating the transparent plastic material or embossing or laminating any film or layer onto the transparent plastic material.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40 wherein the opacifiers are included in a topcoat layer either the multiple different colored layers of ink, a layer of hardening agents, a matte layer or a UV protection layer.

42. (Withdrawn) A window covering comprising:

a thin, flexible film of plastic material, which is capable of self-adhering to a non-porous surface through cohesion and atmospheric pressure, the film allowing light to pass all the way through the film but diffusing it so that objects on either side of the window cannot be clearly distinguished from the other side.

43. (Withdrawn) The window covering of claim 42 wherein the film includes a printed translucent color image.

44. (Withdrawn) The window covering of claim 43 wherein the printed translucent color image is an image of a stained glass window.

45. (Withdrawn) The window covering of claim 42 wherein the film includes UV protection.

46. (Withdrawn) The window covering of claim 43 wherein the translucent color image is viewable from either side of the film.

47. (Withdrawn) The window covering of claim 42 wherein the window covering comprises of a plurality of pieces of the thin, flexible film of plastic material.

48. (Withdrawn) The window covering of claim 43 wherein the film has a thickness of 4 to 10 mils.

49. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 42 wherein the window covering is disposed on a window to insure the privacy of an occupant through the window while still allowing a large amount of light to enter the window.

50. (Withdrawn) A window covering comprising:  
a thin, flexible film of plastic material, having a thickness between 4 mil and 10 mil which self-adheres to a non-porous surface through cohesion and atmospheric pressure and is not opaque; and

a translucent image printed on the material that is not opaque and does not include any opaque layers;

wherein the resulting window covering allows light to pass through but diffuses the light so that objects cannot be clearly distinguished from either side.

51. (Cancelled)

52. (Withdrawn) A window covering comprising:

a transparent plastic substrate including a translucent matte finish and a translucent colored image; and

wherein the substrate has a thickness between 4 mil and 10 mil and which self-adheres to a non-porous surface through cohesion and atmospheric pressure.

53. (Withdrawn) The window covering of claim 52 wherein the translucent matte finish diffuses light to prevent discerning objects through the window thereby providing privacy or hiding an unwanted view while at the same time permitting substantially all light from either side of the window covering to pass through the window, film, and the printed translucent colored image.

54. (Cancelled)

55. (Cancelled)

56. (Cancelled)

57. (Cancelled)

58. (Cancelled)

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40 wherein the multiple different colored inks include magenta, yellow, and cyan colored inks.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40 wherein the single continuous non-laminated piece of thin, flexible plastic film material having the image is non-homogeneous in color.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40 wherein the resulting plastic film material that is a window covering does not include any opaque layers.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40 including applying a matte varnish layer either between the multiple different colored layers and the plastic material, between at least two of the different colored layers, or directly on top of the multiple different colored layers;

the matte varnish containing the opaciters in an amount small enough to combine with the multiple different colored layers of ink to produce a substantially uniform smooth translucent coating on top of the plastic material that causes the substantially even dispersal and diffusion of the light as the light passes through the plastic material.

63. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40 wherein the translucence of the window covering is provided solely by the application of the opaciters and the multiple different colored layers [[to]] onto the transparent plastic material without embossing or laminating the transparent plastic material or embossing or laminating any film or layer onto the transparent plastic material.

64. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[62]] 63 wherein the translucent coating printed on top of the plastic material radially disperses the light passing through to distort any images that may be viewed through the window while at the same time providing an intense color saturation that is similar to an actual illuminated stained glass window.

65. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[62]] 63 including using a lithography multi-color printing process to apply the multiple different colored layers of ink to the plastic material and form the substantially uniform and smooth coating having the opaciters and on the plastic material providing the stained glass image.

66. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 62 including using a silk-screen printing process to apply the multiple different colored layers of ink to the plastic material and form the substantially uniform and smooth coating on the plastic material providing the stained glass image.

67. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[62]] 63 wherein the plastic film includes UV protection in its makeup.

68. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[62]] 63 wherein each of the multiple different colored layers of ink are printed so that the stained glass image that is applied to only one of the front or back surfaces of the plastic film material appears flipped on one axis but otherwise substantially identical when viewed through the transparent plastic film material the multiple different colored layers forming the printed translucent stained glass window color image are applied to a transparent plastic material so that the multiple different colored layers provide substantially all of the translucency in the window covering and further allow the stained glass window color image to be viewable from either side of the film.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68 wherein the film has a thickness of 4 to 10 mils.

70. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 69 wherein the multiple different colored layers of ink are printed on top of each other using a UV-cured lithographic printing press.

71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70 wherein the top surface having the image of the stained glass window is substantially smooth.

72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 71 wherein the flexible plastic film material comprises static vinyl.

73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72 wherein the flexible plastic film material covers only a portion of the window.

74. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 73 further comprising tiling a plurality of pieces of plastic material including the plastic material having the translucent non-opaque stained glass image to substantially cover [[the]] another window that has a greater surface area than the window, each of the tiled pieces applied directly onto the another window.

75. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40 further comprising trimming the plastic material having the translucent non-opaque stained glass image to fit the window.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72 wherein the plastic material prevents a view through the window.

77. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 76 wherein both the top surface of the plastic material having the image of the stained glass window and a bottom surface are substantially smooth and easily cleanable with soap and water.

78. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a window covering that simulates stained glass comprising:

providing a single continuous non-laminated flexible film of plastic material having non-embossed and substantially smooth front and back surfaces that do not include substantially raised portions;

providing printing a sufficient amount of opacifiers across [[the]] an entire top surface of the film of plastic material to produce a translucent effect that obscures a view while diffusing light; and

printing a translucent image of a stained glass window contiguously across [[an]] the entire top surface of the plastic film material using multiple different colored layers of ink printed on top of each other that together in combination with the opacifiers and the film when applied to a window simulate all the different features of a stained glass window;

wherein after printing the image both the entire top surface and an entire bottom surface remain non-embossed[[,]] and substantially smooth without substantially raised portions.

79. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 78 whercin the plastic film material is transparent so that the window covering simulates stained glass when viewed from either side of the window covering.

80. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79 wherein the translucent image comprises a light-diffusing coating that obscures a view while allowing illumination.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80 including printing multiple different colored layers as a substantially uniform, smooth and translucent coating on top of the plastic material so that the light entering a first side of the window covering is dispersed uniformly and radially from a second side of the window covering.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 81 wherein the translucent image of the stained glass window consists only of varnishes and the multiple different colored layers of ink.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 82 including using a lithographic printing process to form the substantially uniform, smooth, and translucent coating of multiple different colored layers on the plastic material that simulate the stained glass window.

84. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 83 wherein the multiple different colored layers of ink are each oriented in a same plane that is substantially parallel to the front and back surfaces of the plastic film material so that each different colored layer of ink is a same distance from the front surface of the plastic film material and is not substantially underneath or above any other different colored layer of ink the substantially smooth surfaces are easily cleanable by wiping.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80 wherein the opacifiers are provided by the printing of the translucent image of the stained glass window contiguously across the entire top surface of the plastic film material.

86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80 wherein the opacifiers are provided by printing a layer of material onto the top surface of the plastic film material.

87. (Currently Amended) A method of simulating a stained glass window comprising:

providing a single continuous non-laminated piece of thin, transparent, flexible plastic film material that has substantially smooth front and back surfaces;

printing multiple different colored layers of transparent ink over an entire front or back surface of the plastic film material that together form a stained glass image over the entire front or back surface of the plastic film material;

printing the multiple different colored layers of transparent ink in a substantially smooth and uniform outside multicolor coating over the entire front or back surface of the plastic film material to form a simulated stained glass image effect over the entire piece of plastic film material; and

applying printing a plurality of uniformly distributed dots of a translucence-causing material onto a varnish or opacifiers to the multiple different colored layers of transparent ink or to onto the transparent plastic film material such that the substantially smooth and uniform outside multicolor coating over the entire front or back surface is maintained without substantially raised portions while also creating a translucent non-opaque effect with the stained glass image that allows a substantial amount of light to pass through the transparent plastic film material while at the same time substantially evenly radially dispersing and diffusing the light as the light passes through the plastic material multiple different colored layers of ink and the plurality of uniformly distributed dots of translucence-causing material thereby preventing the viewing of objects through the plastic material while further adding to the simulated stained glass image effect.

88. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 87 further comprising printing the multiple different colored layers of transparent ink and applying the plurality of dots of translucence-causing material varnish or opacifiers to over the multiple different colored layers of ink to create the simulated stained glass image effect without embossing or laminating the plastic material or embossing or laminating any film or layer onto the plastic material.

89. (New) The method of claim 88 wherein each of the multiple different colored layers of transparent ink are printed so that the stained glass image that is applied to only one of the front or back surfaces of the plastic film material appears flipped on one axis but otherwise substantially identical when viewed through the transparent plastic film material.

90. (New) The method of claim 89 wherein each of the multiple different colored layers of transparent ink are located in a same plane that is substantially parallel to the front and back surfaces of the plastic film material.